

25 AUG 1948

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172

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GENERAL

1. USSR reported not preparing for hostilities--Replying to a Department of Army query, certain US military attaches abroad report no indication in their areas of possible Soviet intentions to open hostilities. Military attaches at The Hague, Bern, Stockholm, Copenhagen, Warsaw, Athens, Ankara, Tehran, and Nanking concur in this opinion. The MA in Moscow, after considering available evidence, expresses the belief that the Kremlin is preparing for eventual rather than immediate war. The MA in Warsaw points out that Poland should be a good barometer of Soviet intentions to wage war in Europe but that no evidence is available of such intentions. The MA in Tehran states that the USSR seems to be interested in furthering its Iranian aims by covert means, with no apparent intention to open immediate hostilities. The MA in Nanking indicates that signs of aggressive Soviet policy in China are lacking but concludes that the Kremlin might easily devote its main attention to Europe and bypass the Far East.

2. Iraq and Transjordan discuss unification of command in Palestine--US Representative Stabler in Amman reports that the Regent of Iraq and other Iraqi officials have arrived in Amman to discuss with King Abdullah of Transjordan the implementation of a unified command of Iraqi and Transjordan forces in Palestine. According to Stabler, Abdullah's principal aims in the current talks are: (a) to put Iraq in the position of having to assume at least some of the blame in the event of future adverse developments; (b) to give the Transjordan Arab Legion a freer hand in the defense of Jerusalem by persuading Iraq to take over some of the Legion's commitments elsewhere; and (c) to obtain additional financial aid from Iraq. Stabler feels that Abdullah will have difficulty accomplishing these aims because the Iraqis are aware of the trap he is setting and realize that they will gain nothing by accepting his plan.

DIA & DOS review(s) completed.

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NO CHANGE in Class. ☐

☒ DECLASSIFIED

Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C

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DDA Memo, 4 Apr 77.

Auth: DDA MEMO 77/1703

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THE AMERICAS

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3. CHILE: Argentina may retain Soviet diplomats--US Embassy Santiago has learned from the Chilean Foreign Office that the Argentine Government has agreed to retain Soviet diplomatic representatives (who are scheduled by mutual agreement to be returned from Chile to Russia through Argentina) if the Soviet Government fails to return Chilean diplomatic personnel via Finland.

- 2 -

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